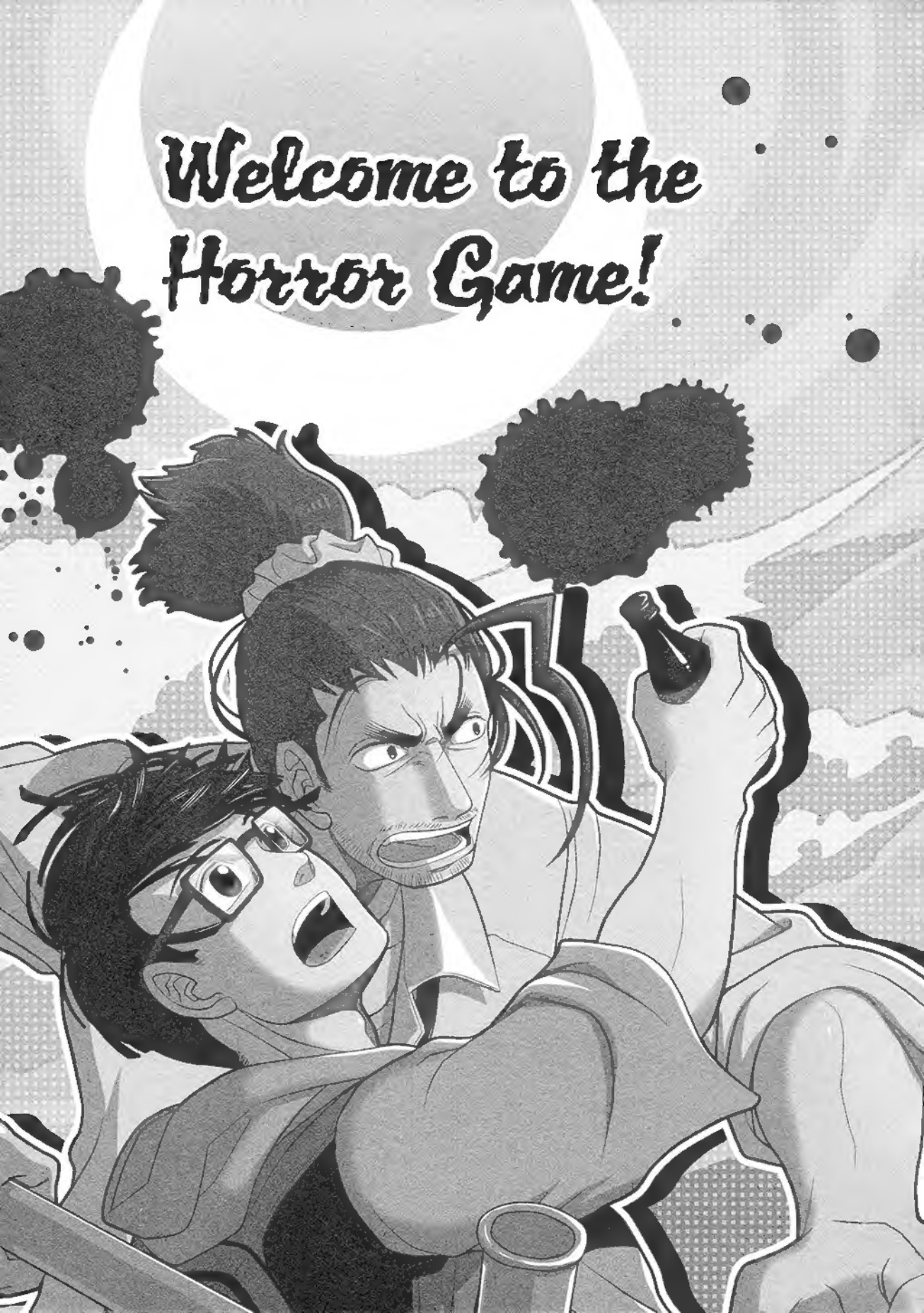
Welcome to the
Horror Game!

The Honest Life of a Game Studio Chapter 7

ゲーム屋BL(上)

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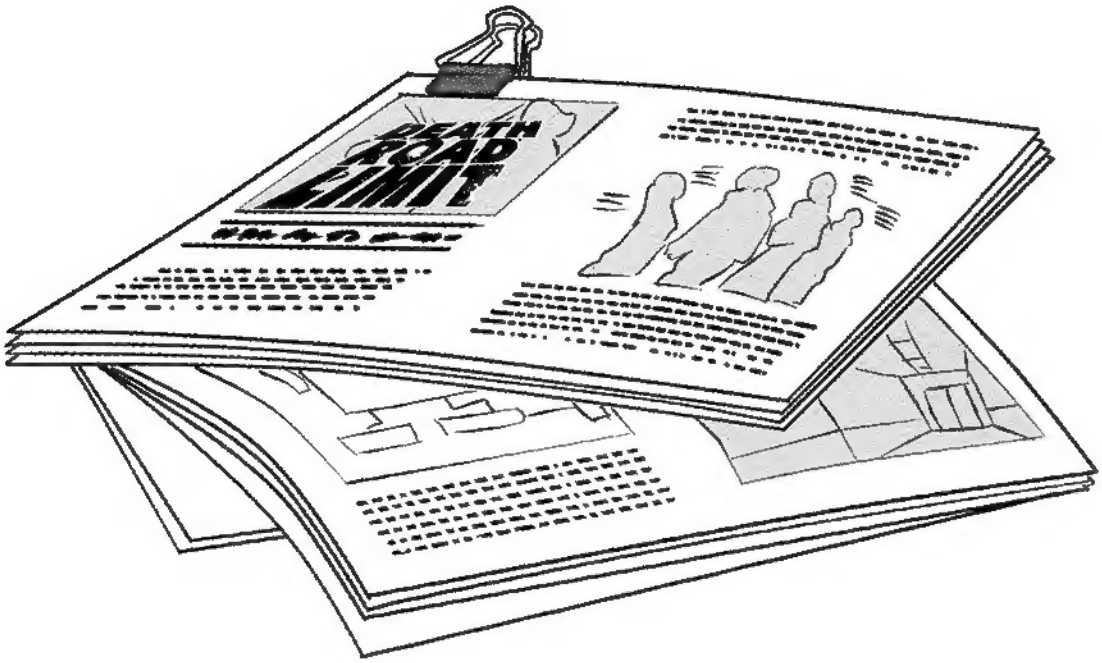
WELCOME TO THE HORROR GAME!

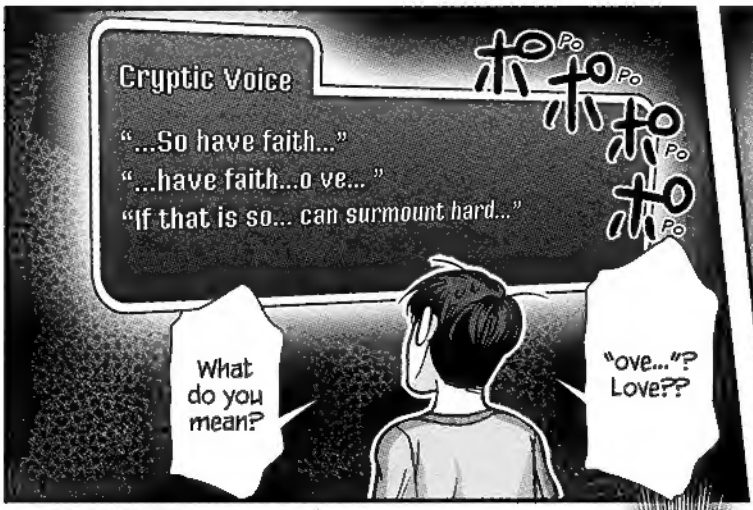
Debugging Proposition



...
Anan
Naoyoshi
...
...
Anan
Naoyoshi
...
...
Naoyoshi
...
...
Anan
Naoyoshi
...
...
Anan
Naoyoshi
...
Ugh...
Having...
...someone call out your full name every time over and over again...

Cryptic Voice
"...Anan Naoyoshi..."
"...Anan Naoyoshi..."
"...Anan Naoyoshi..."
ポ po
ポ po
ポ po
Waah!
There really was a window!!!

That kinda typically happens in an RPG...
I think I even heard the po-po-po sound the text makes.


Cryptic Voice
"...So have faith..."
"...have faith...o ve... "
"If that is so... can surmount hard..."
ポ Po
ポ Po
ポ Po
ポ Po
ポ Po
What do you mean?
"ove..."? Love??

Cryptic Voice
"...Anan Naoyoshi..."
"Your wish will be granted..."
ポ Po
ポ Po
ポ Po
ポ Po
Huh...?
My wish?

Hey! May I know who you are?!
... have faith ...
... ... and ...
I have no idea what you're talking about!
Come baaack!!
... have faith
JAA
cha ra ra ra ra ra
Jaan

...A dream...
チャッチャ cha
チャラーラー cha ra raa
...It didn't make any sense ...
It was like a game's opening scene...
What it said at the end kinda had a J-POP-esque vibe to it...
ゴシゴシ scrub scrub
ふわ
ALARM CLOCK TUNE: A CERTAIN RPG'S OPENING MUSIC
Oh, shoot! That's the back-up alarm!
クワッ QUACK
Oh no no no... I'm late! I'm late!
あわわわ panic
Grandma, I'm off!
チュン chirp
Nao-chan, will yeh be back late again today to "deh-bug"?
Yup, sorry!
I'm eating out, too, so please don't wait up for me.
Now don't overwork yehself!

The catalyst for this dates back to a week ago.

Haah?!

A Class S bug? At this time?

Today marks one week of my debugging work...

I might be taking the last train today, too...

ガタン k-thnk

ゴトン k-thnk

Why am I debugging games when I'm supposed to be...

...a General Affairs guy of a game studio...?

ガタン k-thnk

ゴトン k-thnk

ガタン k-thnk

Even so, we've already done our checks for the β-ROM ...

-sigh- ...Well...

Could you throw me an email summarizing the situation over there...?

And on our side as well?

...Noted, sir. We'll contact you upon confirmation.

...

...

Death Row Team!

Emergency Meeting!

SIGH

...I'll talk to you soon.

ガチャン SLAM

DEATH ROAD LIMIT
It's compatible with just about all next-gen consoles... And it has a feature-rich DLC* for online play!
...In other words, a lot of time and effort was put into making this game.
*DOWNLOADABLE CONTENT
B2 Company* funded our game studio to develop this tentpole title.
"Death Row" is how we abbreviate the horror game, "Death Road Limit."
*A MAJOR GAME STUDIO THAT OFTEN GIVES THEM WORK.

Conference Room
Death Row Meeting Until 3:00 PM
...Just now, a Class S bug was reported.
It's a freeze bug in the PS3 version. Root cause--unknown.
はあああああ
sigh
It looks like the client is willing to extend the debugging period,
but they requested we do a more thorough debugging internally.
A "Class S bug" is one "helluva show-stopper."
The only thing we know is that there's something shady with an event flag.
Freezes and other problems that cause the game to crash are Class S bugs.
We're injecting a tight 2 weeks in our schedule for this.
tap
2 WEEKS
tap
Going over this time frame is unacceptable.
...With that in mind,
Any kid with time to spare, drag them to the Debug Team ASAP.
Anyone outside this project is fine, too!

If the delivery date is delayed, the investor will pull their funding.

Wah-- What a harsh world.

Our credibility will be called into question if we can't do a proper fix on the Class S bug.

This suddenly dropped on everyone's plate

even though we were so close to completion.

wah

wah

If you have your health, you can do anything~

I'm glad you're looking healthy!

Well, well, well.

NOT LISTENING

annoyed

I'm working right now?

On a break, Anan-kun? So *nice~*

Oh--

drag

drag

drag

We'll end it here. Good work, guys!

sigh

He looks awfully tired...

... Nobu-san ...

Ooh! Anan the Gracious God! ***Fantastic!***

Oh, but--

Nobu-san...

I... would like to help out, Miyoshi-san...

Just for 2 weeks of debugging work? Yes?

Hey there, Miyoshi-kuuun~ Can I borrow Anan-kun for a bit?

ufufu

We've got our own work, too, y'know...

It's about that issue, isn't it?

どよ～ん
It's scary how murderous the air has become...

...But,
this way, I can work near Nobu-san.

Though a week has already passed.
...So for 2 weeks time,
I'd be working in the Death Row Debug Team.
I've helped with some debugging before this...
I'd like to think I help out in some small way.

but somehow, around 6 months ago, an overseas business trip led to Nobu-san and I becoming a couple.
We've been dating ever since we got back to Japan... right after he asked me out.
Orono Takeshi (a.k.a. Nobu-san) is a game designer I hold in high regard.
General Affairs and Development don't usually interact much,

We can only talk in between jobs

Please make sure you get veggies, okay?

Okay

and share some little touches...

フンス huff

フンス huff

We have got to find and fix the Class S bug so Nobu-san can relax.

Once the game has gone gold, even Nobu-san can take a vacation in peace!

カチ kchk

カチ kchk

カチ kchk

But lately, there's been too much work

that we haven't gotten any alone time.

I guess...

what I wish for is to spend more time with Nobu-san.

Cryptic Voice

"...So have faith..."

"...have faith...o ve..."

"If that is so... can surmount hard..."

I must be so insecure, I'm dreaming of embarrassing lines like "have faith in love(?)"

We haven't been doing any thing romantic...

カチ kchk...

ざわっ

CHILLS

A bug?

No way!

What?

はぁぁ sigh

But I can't very well say, "Choose me over your job,"

since I also like Nobu-san when he's working.

The web says the typhoon will pass through tonight.
Oh, man.

Thanks!
It's raining pretty hard.
Ugh, I knew it.

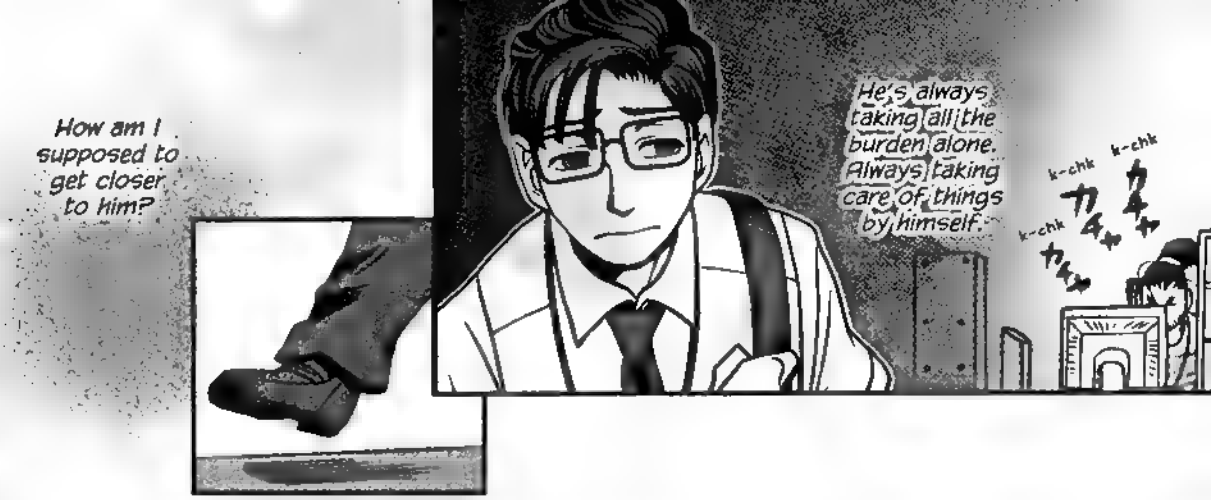
8:00 PM
ゴロ ゴロ…
I went shopping!
Thank you!

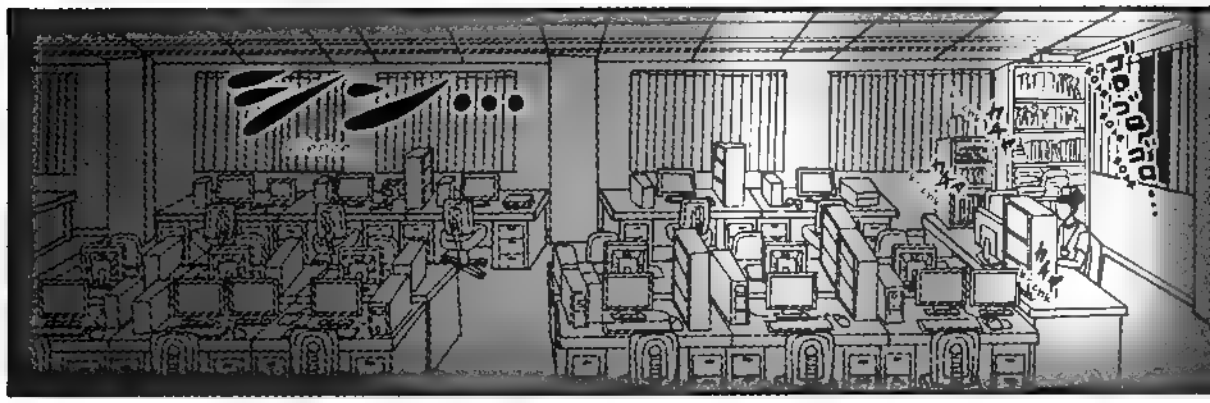
?
whisper ぼそ
What he said–
What do ya think?
whisper ぼそ
What more could we do?

We'll see you soon.
We'll email you tomorrow after checking the typhoon's situation!
Everyone should go home tonight and get a good night's rest.
We're calling it a day!

Debug Team, listen up!
CLAP!
CLAP!
ぱん! ぱん!

And it'll be a lot harder ta have a flurry of staff gettin' burned out.
This weather can be a reasonable excuse.
And we'll need some respite, even during crunch time.
rumble
rumble
rumble
Sigh
Are you sure? We're already strapped for time.
It's less bad than losing power and our data.
Th... Then you're going home, too, right?
We can go home together if--
Can't. I'll be stayin' over.
gloom
...OK...
Oh, for the food.
It's easier ta just stay the night so I can field the calls tomorrow.
You go home, too, while ya still have a train ta catch.
Huh?
The mobile app servers* must be up and running.
We need someone ta restore them if the power goes out.
So he has to stay over again...?
chomp
chomp
See ya!
See you!
See you, guys!
ANOTHER ONE OF NOBU-SAN'S RESPONSIBILITIES.


How am I supposed to get closer to him?
He's always taking all the burden alone. Always taking care of things by himself.
k-chk
k-chk
k-chk
k-chk


シーン...

If ya came from the store, ya could've bought an umbrella there...
Here! I brought some pick-me-ups!
Ya don't have ta do this.

I'm staying over, too!
Anan?!
I... I totally forgot an umbrella!
びしょ
びしょ

ker-chak
ガチャン
Hmm?

It's been a while, so I feel kinda embarrassed.
... ... Okay.
... right ...?
chimu ちむ
Look at you, yer soaked through.
I'll give ya a spare shirt. Go change in it.
What's done is done.*
I got a towel, too.
OK...
Thank you.
ruffle わしゃ
ruffle わしゃ
Note: Sometimes, Hobu-san lapses into Kansai dialect. This is one of them.
How nostalgic. It was right here.
What's up?
gsk gsk ゴゾ ゴゾ
I'm pretty sure I had a hand towel in here...
Ah.

FLASH!
Do you remember, Nobu-san?
I was carrying this talisman on our business trip...

びくん
JOLT
Fwaah?!

ふう
phew
You're up.
Ah!
Nobu-san!

... ... Where is this place ...?
This isn't the office...
It looks fancier than ours...
Dunno.
But, feels like I recognize this place from some-where.
look きょろ
look きょろ
Me, too.

This pattern...
I feel like this has happened before...
...Anan.
Oi, Anan! Wake up!

BAM
!!
Could this place be--
--I KNEW it!!!
We're in the fucking game!!!

Thank good-ness...
The enemies can't get in here since it's the save point before mission start.
WE'RE FINE.
sighh
Pant
huff
SLAM
Pant
Is this the first stage of "Death Row"?!
Th-th-th-that looked like the opening cinematic, didn't it?
C-c-c-can the zombies get in here?!
Pant
Pant
Pant
When I haven't even gone and cleared this yet?!
Isn't this way harder than when we were on the desert island?
WHAT
Well, well.
Is the condition to get out "clear the game" again?
I have no fuckin' idea what triggered this...
But then again, we're back inside a game...
Oh... Well, then!
OOOH!
I KNOW "Death Row." From item placements ta enemy spawn points ta event trigger locations.
... but ...
I know all of them, bud.
The desert island game was unfinished so we got ta set the goal ta clear it...

But I am pretty nifty with FPS※ and online multiplayer games.
I'm... not good with horror games so I haven't gotten far. I'm sorry...
※ FPS... FIRST-PERSON SHOOTER.
ehehe
...But it doesn't feel right...
That'll be a piece of cake if we only have ta clear it...
"In Scenario mode, few enemies come out due ta the story-line,
"But in Co-op mode, there are 5 times as many enemies."
SCENARIO MODE 1 PLAYER
CO-OP MODE 2 - 4 PLAYERS
"In this game, there's a Scenario mode and a Co-op mode."
First off, I'll explain the rules.
Let me tell ya about the threats.
Ya haven't played Co-op mode, right?
Ah, yes. I'm debugging the Scenario mode.
plap
I... I see...
In Scenario, you avoid enemies as much as ya can,
but the gameplay ain't like that in Co-op mode since it's a multiplayer game.
squeak
squeak
squeak
Wow. It really ignores the storyline, huh...
Beat the last boss in the final stage and we clear the game.
We'll pass through the main route points.
There are 4 stages in total.
BOSS

clack カチャ
...What happens if we die in this game?
Nobu-san's all pumped up...
He's getting all gung ho...!
My main weapon's an iron pipe.
Let's stock up on weapons and items for now.
And we need ta settle on our hand signals!
And if we gotta go through this, we might as well have FUN with it!
BAM
W--
UWAAH
Not knowing is too scary... I don't want to move.
Will we return here?
Or will we die for real?
I ain't got any idea what's gonna happen either,
pat ポン
If we're gonna change our situation, we gotta push a button or nothin' will happen.
ruffle わしわし
ruffle わしわし
But this here is a game.